

Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC)
Monday, January 13, 2020
10am – Noon
NH Hospital Association
125 Airport Road, Concord NH

MINUTES

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES

Present: Michael Auerbach, Kathleen Bates, Jay Couture, Diana DeDousis, Ellen Edgerly, Lisa DiMartino, Tamme Dustin, Ellen Edgerly, Ellen Keith, Paula Minnehan, Ken Norton, Ronnieann Rakoski, Marie-Elizabeth Ramas, Nancy Rollins, Karen Rosenberg, Jonathan Routhier, Kristine Stoddard, Carolyn Virtue, Nichole VonDette, Michelle Winchester

Excused: Leslie Aronson, Sai Cherala, Sarah Morrison, Mel Spierer

DHHS: Henry Lipman, Alyssa Cohen, Sarah Finne, Kim Reeve, Betsy Hippensteel, Dawn Landry, Leslie Melby, Brooke Belanger

Guests: Connor Buchholz (UNH/IHPP), Carol Iacopino (CTS Transport), Rich Segal (McLane), Nicole Tower (ACNH); Heather Young, William Kowalski (FEI Systems)

REVIEW/APPROVAL – MINUTES – December 9, 2019

M/S/A

RULES, Henry Lipman

He-W 589, Medical Assistance Services Provided by Education Agencies (Medicaid to Schools (MTS))

Henry Lipman thanked the MTS Subcommittee (Michelle Winchester, Karen Rosenberg, Nancy Rollins) for their work on the MTS rules.

Motion: Accept the subcommittee's comments on the rule. M/S/A

Next steps include administrative billing, standards for services, and documentation requirements.

Public hearings on the MTS rule: Jan 17, 2020, 2:30pm and Jan 22, 2020, 3:00pm – Brown Auditorium

Qualified healthcare provider requirements for MTS:

- SB 684 includes requirements. Hearing – Jan 23, 2020, 9:00am.
- OPLC expects to issue draft Guidance later this week. The Guidance will be previewed with the Healthy Students/Promising Futures. MCAC is invited to preview. OPLC and Boards have jurisdiction on this Guidance.

Questions were raised about how a guidance document differs from an administrative rule. The purpose of a guidance document is to provide further explanation on certain operational aspects of the services, as well as responses to questions from the field. Guidance provides interpretation of the rules. In some instances, such as the definition of qualified health providers, statutes and/or rules will be amended, as in [SB 684, relative to Medicaid to schools](#), which the Department supports.

Next steps:

1. Ordering, referring, and prior authorization (PA) requirements for MTS services.
2. Administrative claiming: provides an opportunity for school districts to structure the MTS program to claim Medicaid funds for program operational costs. Some states make interim payments for services and later reconcile costs under administrative costs.

Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities (MEAD); Medicaid for Older Adults with Disabilities (MOAD), Dawn Landry, Medicaid Policy Administrator

MEAD has been an optional program in NH since 2002. MEAD covers individuals 18-64 years of age. Upon turning 65, most people automatically transition to Old Age Assistance (OAA). 2019 legislation (HB 4) requires DHHS to adopt MOAD for individuals at age 65. Unlike MEAD, MOAD limits income up to 150% FPL (federal poverty level). A State Plan Amendment (SPA) will be submitted to CMS this January. Potential applicants for MOAD will already be on OAA or OAA with a medically needy spenddown.

Discussion: Kathy Bates commented that many people with disabilities are unaware of MEAD; or they may be afraid to apply for fear of losing benefits. When they do apply, it can take too long to become eligible. She questioned why it is so difficult to qualify. D Landry explained that applicants must first qualify for APTD or ANB, and are then informed about MEAD. The Department is working to streamline the eligibility verification process by mid-year. Maintaining the integrity of the program can sometimes cause a challenging process for applicants. K Bates suggested the Department increase its efforts to educate people. DHHS will arrange to have MEAD eligibility presented to MCAC at a future meeting. If members know of anyone who needs help, please contact Henry Lipman.

Medical Transportation, Betsy Hippensteel, Medicaid Provider Relations Manager; Carol Iacopino, CTS
The Department plans to re-procure Medicaid medical transportation. Before reprocurement, DHHS will identify the issues that need to be addressed in order to strengthen re-procurement.
H Lipman introduced Brooke Belanger, Director of Medicaid Enterprise Development, who will be working on reprocurement.

B Hippensteel is working with CTS to document problems and determine next steps to resolve.

- The high demand for rides during morning hours can be eased by advising members to try to schedule provider appointments later in the day when transportation volume is lower.
- Interpretation and communication issues are a problem for some members. In such instances, if they have a preference for a specific driver, they may request that driver for consistency.
- When a driver fails to show up for the return trip home, a call should be placed to CTS and another driver will sent.

C Iacopino reported that of the 1.4 million trips scheduled last year by CTS, 3,745 (1,872 round trips) could not be satisfied. She will follow up on whether unsatisfied requests are limited to specific geographic areas; problems with interpretation requests; problems getting through by phone to CTS; and simplifying mileage reimbursement.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES, Henry Lipman, Medicaid Director

- Medicaid rates: The notice on rate increases has been published. If there are any discrepancies noted, please contact H Lipman.
- **Disability Determinations**
The next quarterly meeting conference call on disability determinations data is Thursday, Jan 30, 10:00 – Noon. A notice will be forthcoming to the MCAC.

- **HB 4 Adult Dental Update:** Sarah Finne, DMD

The Adult Dental Working Group met December 19, 2019. The Department's actuary, Milliman, gave an in-depth presentation to support the HB 4 Working Group's decision-making process, including a review of different levels of dental benefits offered in other states. Various benefit plans will be presented at the next meeting on January 16. A report on the work to date has been submitted to the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker, and will be posted on the Adult Dental Working Group's website at <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/hb692/index.htm>.

The Working Group will be reporting on anticipated changes to state law and the Medicaid State Plan. Milliman will provide estimates on anticipated savings from reduced hospital emergency room dental visits. The Working Group has also discussed whether to combine children's and adult dental benefits.

A question was raised as to whether the dental care as it relates to chronic disease management has been discussed. S Finne stated it is difficult to determine an actual cost associated with chronic disease, though this may be tracked over time.

Feb 10 Agenda Items:

- MEAD/MOAH – What does Service Link do for applicants?
- Medicaid to Schools rule changes as a result of public comments
- Dental network adequacy as it pertains to geographic areas and specialties.

Meeting adjourned.

Action Items:

- DHHS will arrange to have MEAD eligibility presented to MCAC at a future meeting.
- C Iacopino will follow up on interpretation issues; whether unsatisfied requests are limited to specific areas; and phone issues with CTS